Michael F. Easley
Governor

State of North Carolina
Office of the Governor

GOV. EASLEY ANNOUNCES RALEIGH-CARY TOPS FORBES LIST OF BEST CITIES FOR JOBS
Charlotte-Gastonia-Concord and Greensboro-High Point Also in Top 100

RALEIGH – Gov. Mike Easley announced today that Forbes.com named the Raleigh-Cary metropolitan area as the nation's No.1 city for jobs. The area moved up from last year's No. 7 spot to take the top honors. The Charlotte-Gastonia-Concord and Greensboro-High Point areas also made the list of Best 100 Cities for Jobs.

"I am proud that cities in our state continue to win recognition for business friendly climates and the high quality of life North Carolinians enjoy," Easley said. "We will continue to make investments in education, workforce development, the environment and transportation to keep North Carolina leading the nation in job creation and growth."

The Forbes.com rankings were based on five factors, which were all weighed equally: unemployment rate, job growth, income growth, median household income and the cost of living. Data for the 100 largest metropolitan areas as determined by the U.S. Census Bureau was obtained from Moody's Economy.com, an independent provider of business research and data.

Raleigh's top ranking indicated that the area has the lowest unemployment rate, high incomes and strong job growth, while residents enjoy a relatively low cost of living. The area is home to the Research Triangle Park and three major universities – the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, North Carolina State University and Duke University.

The Charlotte-Gastonia-Concord metropolitan area ranked 36th in this year's survey, while the Greensboro-High Point area placed 89th.

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The complete story can be found at www.forbes.com

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